

Published Wednesday

By THE

COURT HOUSE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

R. S. PATTERSON Editor.

OUR PLATFORM.

Endorsing our platform of last week, we hereby declare it a principle of the supporters of this paper and of the voters of Safford in particular that, realizing the necessity of reform in our county government, we will give our unqualified support to those candidates who declare for reform and give us evidence that they are sincere in their declarations.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

FOR SHERIFF.

I hereby announce myself as an independent candidate for sheriff of Graham county.
W. B. FOSTER.

Facts and Figures.

Is it advisable to move the county seat 5 miles?

Get down to figures and see.

The present court house is a disgrace to any civilized community. The poorest county in any state in the Union would not submit to such an excuse for a court house. It is a well known fact that we will be compelled to have a new court house in a very few years. Suppose the supervisors order a new one at the present location; it will cost the county \$20,000. Our taxes will be raised from \$3.65 to \$4.00. Every taxpayer in the county will be obliged to pay additional taxes, then the county will be put to the expense of planting new trees every two years, as every new sheriff thinks he can get trees to grow and there never is any shade about the place after all. And to get down to the real point at issue, the court house is located where there is a gang of men who, like vultures hovering about the victim waiting for a chance to pounce upon it and sap its life blood, hover about the county seat and

watch every opportunity to draw from the county, by fair means or foul the hard earned taxes which the people pay into the county's coffers.

It is a well known fact that the *Guardian* lowered the county printing about \$1700 last year and about \$1000 this year. It is also a fact that the county paid one of Solomonville's merchants \$1600 last year for maintaining a quarantine against small pox in San Jose, and it is a question whether there was any small pox there or not. It is a fact also that the jail facilities are inadequate, as a Mexican boy was taken there from Safford last winter and was put in a cell with a woman and man. It is high time that our county is providing separate apartments for its male and female prisoners.

The people of Safford offer to put up a \$12000 court house, which would cost at least \$30000 to build in Solomonville. They offer a site for the building which can be made into a beautiful park, where it will be a pleasure to go. They offer a court house and grounds which will be the pride of our county, and which will be worthy of our territory. This is offered free to the county of Graham. It now remains to be seen whether or not her citizens will accept the gift.

Ten Reasons for Moving the County Seat.

- 1st. Safford is the geographical center of Graham county.
- 2nd. More business is transacted in Safford.
- 3rd. Safford is a prettier town.
- 4th. Safford has better water.
- 5th. Safford will put up a court house without expense to the tax payers.
- 6th. Safford is not under the one man power.
- 7th. The county seat was taken away from here by fraud and corruption.
- 8th. Because the taxable wealth of our county will be increased at least \$200,000 the first year.
- 9th. Because Safford is a better town than Solomonville.
- 10th. Because taxation will be reduced.

In this issue of the *RATTLER* will be found the announcement of W. B. Foster as a candidate for sheriff on the independent ticket. Mr. Foster will make a strong fight for the office, and as his platform is reform his supporters will be numerous.

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